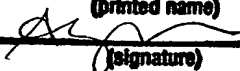


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for secure authentication of a hardware token is disclosed. In one embodiment, a host computer fingerprint is used to generate a partial seed for a challenge-response authentication which is performed on the hardware token.

- 5 In another embodiment, the host computer fingerprint is used as a personal identification number for the hardware token.

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